

MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

December 3, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Place: MDOT Auditorium

Commission Members Present:

**MS Emergency Management Agency
MS Department of Public Safety
MS National Guard
MS Association of Supervisors
MS Department of Environmental Quality
MS Association of Police Chiefs
MS Department of Transportation
MS Association of Fire Chiefs
MS Office of Homeland Security
MS Department of Information Technology Services
Safe City Initiative
MS Sheriff's Association**

**Mike Womack
Michael Berthay
William Freeman
Steve Gray
Keith Harkins
Jimmy Houston
Willie Huff
Tom Lariviere
Jay Ledbetter
David Litchliter
Joseph McArthur
J. D. Roseman**

Advisory Members Present:

**Vice Chairman – Senate Public Utilities Committee
Chairman – Senate Public Utilities Committee
Chairman – House Public Utilities Committee**

**Senator Nickey Browning
Senator Nolan Mettetal
Representative Ray Rogers**

Vice Chairman Womack called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 PM and welcomed everyone.

Vice Chairman Womack called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2009, meeting. Tom Lariviere made the motion, it was seconded by Jimmy Houston, and the motion passed with none opposed.

Vice Chairman Womack recognized Keith Harkins to report for the Procurement Review Committee. Mr. Harkins reported that two requests came before the Committee this month. The City of Flowood requested \$418,135.00 to purchase equipment which would allow them to access the primary controller in Rankin County and gain access to multiple feature sets that will offer greater safety and interoperability features within the system. Mr. Harkins made the motion for approval, it was seconded by Tom Lariviere, and the motion passed with none opposed. The Mississippi Forestry Commission was approved to purchase ten (10) Motorola APX7000 MSWIN compatible radios in the amount of \$49,512.50. The Procurement Review Committee tabled other requests from the Forestry Commission, pending the acquisition of more information and further discussion.

Willie Huff reported for the Governance/Interoperability Committee. Mr. Huff stated twenty-nine (29) grant requests have been awarded to date for a total of \$4,264,294.23.

Vice Chairman Womack recognized Steve Gray to report for the Revenue Committee. Mr. Gray stated that the Revenue Committee is continuing to meet and hopes to come to the next meeting with recommendations.

Vice Chairman Womack recognized Bill Roach to provide the MSWIN Project Update. Mr. Roach reported that Phase 1 Acceptance Testing is continuing. Phase 1 Coverage Testing was completed in October and Alarm Testing is currently underway. There is one (1) site left to be completed in Phase 2A (Jackson Area). There has been no new construction since June due to FEMA EHP reviews. Of the forty-four (44) sites submitted to FEMA, eighteen (18) had no ground disturbance, and FEMA funds were used for testing only. Those eighteen (18) sites have been cleared and freed up \$2M dollars. The response received from FEMA today in response to Mr.

Roach's inquiry as to the status of the remaining twenty-six (26) EHP reviews was that those twenty-six (26) sites have been referred to Region 4. They indicated they would start scoping the review of those sites between December 14 and December 31, 2009, and that it could run into January 2010. FEMA has not yet given any indication of what the completion time frame would be. Mr. Roach estimates a possible six (6) month delay in new construction at this point.

Vice Chairman Womack noted that he would be meeting with the FEMA Regional Administrator in a couple of weeks and would try to move the process of FEMA EHP reviews along. Mr. Womack will meet with Mr. Roach to get details on the FEMA EHP reviews before December 15, 2009.

Mr. Litchliter provided a report on the monthly expenditures. Mr. Litchliter noted normal expenditure activity for the month and that approximately \$13M dollars in catch-up payments have been made to Motorola. Those payments were made from bond money and are to be reimbursed from FEMA funds when they are freed up.

Vice Chairman Womack called for other business. Mr. Roach stated that Johnnie Bailey on the WCC staff has been in touch with agencies to validate/update the number of subscriber units (portable and mobile) they need. Mobile radios should be delivered by the end of December. After they are inventoried, subscriber units will be allocated to and passed out to the agencies.

Mr. Harkins noted that the Procurement Review Committee will come back next month with recommendations for a deadline to be communicated to potential applicants for the procurement review process. Last minute requests do not allow for adequate time to review all requests.

Mr. Roach shared that in the initial design for Phase 1 (Southern Phase), there were to be three (3) Highway Patrol dispatch locations and one (1) dispatch location for the Department of Marine Resources. Those dispatch locations were subsequently eliminated thinking that there would be a centralized dispatch of Highway Patrol. Since then, a new Highway Patrol Center has been constructed in the southern area and MSWIN has a tower located there. The WCC has received a Change Order Request for \$165,000.00 to create a microwave link from our current microwave loop to the Highway Patrol Center. Mr. Roach presented the Change Order Request for Commission approval so that the Change Order can be executed. Jay Ledbetter made the motion to approve, it was seconded by Bill Freeman, and the motion passed with none opposed.

There was no other business to be discussed.

The next meeting will be January 7, 2010, in the MDOT Auditorium at 1:30 PM.

Bill Freeman made a motion to adjourn and Steve Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed with none opposed. Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:20 PM.